

Please add new claims 21 - 23, as follows:

21. The method according to claim 6 wherein the food product is selected from the group consisting of ice cream, snacks, bars, chocolate and chewing gum.
22. The method according to claim 19 wherein the food product is selected from the group consisting of ice cream, snacks, bars, chocolate and chewing gum.
23. (new) Method according to claim 6, wherein the food product is cereal food product which is a bar.

Please amend claims 1, 6, 9, 10, 11 and 19, as follows:

1. (Twice amended) A method to produce a food product comprising probiotic Lactobacillus bacteria which have been rendered non-viable, wherein the method comprises the step of adding said probiotic Lactobacillus bacteria as non-viable Lactobacillus bacteria into the food product, and wherein no substantial fermentation of the food product by said Lactobacillus bacteria will take place.
6. (Twice Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the food product is selected from the group consisting of soups, noodles, sauces, dressing, spreads, cereals, beverages, bread, biscuits, sweets, dairy products, dietetic products, and dietetic products.
9. (Twice amended) A food product having a pH of 3.8 or less, said food product comprising probiotic Lactobacillus bacteria which have been rendered non-viable and said food product being substantially non-fermented by said Lactobacillus bacteria.

10. (Twice amended) A food product having a pH of 5.0 or more, said food product comprising probiotic Lactobacillus bacteria which have been rendered non-viable and said food product being substantially non-fermented by said Lactobacillus bacteria.

11. (Twice amended) A food product having an  $A_w$  of 0.90 or less, said food product comprising probiotic Lactobacillus bacteria which have been rendered non-viable and said food product being substantially non-fermented by said Lactobacillus bacteria.

19. (Amended) Method according to claim 14 wherein the food product is selected from the group consisting soups, noodles, sauces, dressing, spreads, cereals, beverages, bread, biscuits, sweets, dairy products, and dietetic products.